AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method in a server configured for initiating a messaging session for an incoming call by accessing subscriber profile information from a directory server, the method comprising:

attempting retrieval of a subscriber announcement for the messaging session from a messaging server based on the subscriber profile information, the subscriber announcement stored in the messaging server as a first data file having a first size;

determining an inaccessibility of the subscriber announcement for the messaging session from the messaging server;

retrieving from the directory server an audible subscriber identifier, stored in the directory server as a second data file having a second size substantially smaller than the first size, based on the determined inaccessibility of the subscriber announcement; and

playing for the messaging session an alternate subscriber announcement including the audible subscriber identifier.

2. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein the attempting retrieval step includes attempting access to the messaging server according to Internet Message Access Protocol (IMAP).

3. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 2, wherein the attempting access step includes attempting a login procedure with the messaging server according to IMAP.

4. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 3, wherein the determining step includes determining a failure of the login procedure.

5. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 2, wherein the retrieving step includes retrieving the audible subscriber identifier from the directory server according to Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP).

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6. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 5, wherein the audible subscriber identifier corresponds to a spoken name of the subscriber, the playing step including playing a generic announcement and the audible subscriber identifier as the alternate subscriber announcement.

7. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 5, wherein the second data file is a .wav file.

8. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein the retrieving step includes retrieving the audible subscriber identifier from the directory server according to Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP).

9. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
recording a message during the messaging session; and
storing the message in a delivery queue for delivery to the messaging server.

10. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 9, further comprising periodically attempting delivery of the message stored in the delivery queue to the messaging server until one of a delivery acknowledgment is received, and a timeout error occurs.

11. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, further comprising storing in the directory server the audible subscriber identifier, at a location associated with the corresponding subscriber profile information, prior to the retrieving step.

12. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A server configured for initiating a messaging session for an incoming call, the server comprising:
a first executable resource configured for attempting access to a messaging server according to a first open standard protocol, the messaging server storing a first file having a first size and that includes a subscriber announcement for a messaging session;

a second executable resource configured for accessing a directory server, according to a second open standard protocol, for subscriber profile information; and

a messaging application configured for initiating a messaging session for an incoming call by retrieving the subscriber profile information and attempting retrieval of the subscriber announcement based on the subscriber profile information, the messaging application configured for playing for the messaging session an alternate subscriber announcement having an audible subscriber identifier, retrieved by the messaging application from the directory server as a second data file having a second size substantially smaller than the first size, based on a determined inaccessibility of the subscriber announcement.

13. (ORIGINAL) The server of claim 12, wherein the first executable resource is configured for attempting access to the messaging server according to Internet Message Access Protocol (IMAP).

14. (ORIGINAL) The server of claim 13, wherein the first executable resource is configured for attempting access to the messaging server by attempting a login procedure with the messaging server according to IMAP.

15. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The server of claim 14, wherein the messaging application determines the inaccessibility of the subscriber announcement based on notification from the first executable resource that the login procedure failed.

16. (ORIGINAL) The server of claim 12, wherein the second executable resource accesses the directory server for retrieval of the second data file, according to Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP), based on a retrieval request from the messaging application.

17. (ORIGINAL) The server of claim 12, further comprising:

a delivery queue for storage of a message recorded during the messaging session; and

a delivery agent configured for attempting delivery of the message stored in the delivery queue to the messaging server for a prescribed time interval until a prescribed timeout interval has elapsed.

18. (ORIGINAL) The server of claim 12, wherein the messaging application is configured for recording the audible subscriber identifier and generating the corresponding second data file, the second executable resource configured for storing the second data file in the directory server, at a location associated with the corresponding subscriber profile information.

19. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A computer readable medium having stored thereon sequences of instructions for initiating a messaging session for an incoming call by accessing subscriber profile information from a directory server, the sequences of instructions including instructions for performing the steps of:

attempting retrieval of a subscriber announcement for the messaging session from a messaging server based on the subscriber profile information, the subscriber announcement stored in the messaging server as a first data file having a first size;

determining an inaccessibility of the subscriber announcement for the messaging session from the messaging server;

retrieving from the directory server an audible subscriber identifier, stored in the directory server as a second data file having a second size substantially smaller than the first size, based on the determined inaccessibility of the subscriber announcement; and

playing for the messaging session an alternate subscriber announcement including the audible subscriber identifier.

20. (ORIGINAL) The medium of claim 19, wherein the attempting retrieval step includes attempting access to the messaging server according to Internet Message Access Protocol (IMAP).

21. (ORIGINAL) The medium of claim 20, wherein the attempting access step includes attempting a login procedure with the messaging server according to IMAP.

22. (CANCELED).

23. (ORIGINAL) The medium of claim 20, wherein the retrieving step includes retrieving the audible subscriber identifier from the directory server according to Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP).

24. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The medium of claim 23, wherein the audible subscriber identifier corresponds to a spoken name of the subscriber, the playing step including playing a generic announcement and the audible subscriber identifier as the alternate subscriber announcement.

25. (ORIGINAL) The medium of claim 23, wherein the second data file is a .wav file.

26. (ORIGINAL) The medium of claim 19, wherein the retrieving step includes retrieving the audible subscriber identifier from the directory server according to Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP).

27. (ORIGINAL) The medium of claim 19, further comprising instructions for performing the steps of:
    recording a message during the messaging session; and
    storing the message in a delivery queue for delivery to the messaging server.

28. (ORIGINAL) The medium of claim 27, further comprising instructions for performing the step of periodically attempting delivery of the message stored in the delivery

queue to the messaging server until one of a delivery acknowledgment is received, and a timeout error occurs.

29. (ORIGINAL) The medium of claim 19, further comprising instructions for performing the step of storing in the directory server the audible subscriber identifier, at a location associated with the corresponding subscriber profile information, prior to the retrieving step.

30. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A server configured for initiating a messaging session for an incoming call by accessing subscriber profile information from a directory server, the server comprising:

means for attempting retrieval of a subscriber announcement for the messaging session from a messaging server based on the subscriber profile information, the subscriber announcement stored in the messaging server as a first data file having a first size;

means for determining an inaccessibility of the subscriber announcement for the messaging session from the messaging server;

means for retrieving from the directory server an audible subscriber identifier, stored in the directory server as a second data file having a second size substantially smaller than the first size, based on the determined inaccessibility of the subscriber announcement; and

means for playing for the messaging session an alternate subscriber announcement including the audible subscriber identifier.

31. (ORIGINAL) The server of claim 30, wherein the attempting retrieval means is configured for attempting access to the messaging server according to Internet Message Access Protocol (IMAP).

32. (CANCELED).

33. (CANCELED).

34. (ORIGINAL) The server of claim 31, wherein the retrieving means is configured for retrieving the audible subscriber identifier from the directory server according to Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP).

35. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The server of claim 34, wherein the audible subscriber identifier corresponds to a spoken name of the subscriber, the playing means configured for playing a generic announcement and the audible subscriber identifier as the alternate subscriber announcement.

36. (ORIGINAL) The server of claim 34, wherein the second data file is a .wav file.

37. (ORIGINAL) The server of claim 30, wherein the retrieving means is configured for retrieving the audible subscriber identifier from the directory server according to Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP).

38. (ORIGINAL) The server of claim 30, further comprising:
means for recording a message during the messaging session; and
means for storing the message in a delivery queue for delivery to the messaging server.

39. (ORIGINAL) The server of claim 38, further comprising means for periodically attempting delivery of the message stored in the delivery queue to the messaging server until one of a delivery acknowledgment is received, and a timeout error occurs.

40. (ORIGINAL) The server of claim 30, further comprising means for storing in the directory server the audible subscriber identifier, at a location associated with the corresponding subscriber profile information.

41. (NEW) The method of claim 1, wherein each of the attempting retrieval, determining the inaccessibility of the subscriber announcement, retrieving the audible subscriber identifier, and playing the alternate subscriber announcement are performed by the server.

42. (NEW) The server of claim 12, wherein the subscriber announcement is stored in the messaging server, the messaging application configured for playing the alternate subscriber announcement based on the determined inaccessibility of the subscriber announcement from within the messaging server.

43. (NEW) The medium of claim 19, wherein each of the attempting retrieval, determining the inaccessibility of the subscriber announcement, retrieving the audible subscriber identifier, and playing the alternate subscriber announcement are performed by the server.